



# **Health Equity Task Force**

**January 19, 2020 Meeting**

# Welcome

*This is the eleventh meeting of the legislative task force established by Chapter 93 of the Acts of 2020 (referred to as the “Health Equity Task Force”) to study and make recommendations to the General Court that address health disparities for underserved or underrepresented populations based on culture, race, ethnicity, language, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, geographic location, including, but not limited to, gateway cities with hospitals dedicated to caring for patients who test positive for COVID-19, and age in the commonwealth during the COVID-19 pandemic.*

# Health Equity Task Force Members

## Senate Appointees

**Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz**

**Senator Julian Cyr**

**Task Force Co-Chair, Michael Curry, Esq.**, Deputy CEO and General Counsel at Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers

**Dr. Milagros Abreu**, Executive Director, President and Founder of The Latino Health Insurance Program

**Dr. Cassandra Pierre**, infectious diseases physician and Assistant Professor of Medicine at Boston University

**Dr. Frank Robinson**, Vice President, Public Health and Community Relations, Baystate Health

**Hirak Shah**, Legal Counsel for Senate Minority Leader Bruce Tarr

## House Appointees

**Representative Chynah Tyler**

**Representative José F. Tosado (vacant position)**

**Task Force Co-Chair, Dr. Assaad Sayah**, CEO, Cambridge Health Alliance; Commissioner of Public Health, City of Cambridge; Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School

**Dr. Kiame Mahaniah**, CEO, Lynn Community Health Center

**Dr. Myechia Minter-Jordan**, President & CEO, DentaQuest Partnership for Oral Health Advancement and Catalyst Institute

**Jeffrey Sanchez**, Lecturer, Center for Public Health Leadership, TH Chan School of Public Health; Senior Advisor, Rasky Partners

**Beverly Stables**, Health Care Policy Analyst for House Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

**Chair of the MA Black and Latino Legislative Caucus**

**Representative Carlos González**

**Chair of the MA Asian-American Legislative Caucus**

**Representative Donald H. Wong**

# Agenda

## 1. Welcome and Introductions of Task Force Members & Approval of December 16 Meeting Minutes

### 2. Updates (15 minutes)

(A) Continuing Discussion on COVID-19 Vaccines (Michael Curry, All)

(B) Announcement of Prostate Cancer Awareness Event (Dr. Abreu)

(C) Welcome to Joan Quinlan (Michael Curry, All)

(D) Future Work of Task Force (Dr. Sayah)

### 3. Panel 1: Telehealth, Digital Equity, and Health Equity Zones

(35 minutes) (Introductions/Moderator: Dr. Mahaniah)

### 4. Panel 2: Cross-Sector Digital Equity and Inclusion

(30 minutes) (Introductions/Moderator: Dr. Robinson)

# Continuing Discussion on COVID-19 Vaccine and Public Awareness (Michael Curry/All) (8 minutes)

## When can I get a COVID-19 vaccine in MA?

**PHASE ONE**  
In order of priority

- Clinical and non-clinical healthcare workers doing direct and COVID-facing care
- Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities
- First responders (EMS, Fire, Police)
- Congregate care settings (including corrections and shelters)
- Home-based healthcare workers
- Healthcare workers doing non-COVID-facing care

**PHASE TWO**  
In order of priority

- Individuals with 2+ comorbidities (high risk for COVID-19 complications), individuals age 75+, and residents and staff of public and private low income and affordable housing
- Early education and K-12 workers, transit, grocery, utility, food and agriculture, sanitation, public works and public health workers
- Adults 65+
- Individuals with one comorbidity

**PHASE THREE**  
Vaccine available to general public

**December - February**  
Estimated timeframes

**February - April**

**April - June**

For more information on vaccine distribution visit [Mass.gov/COVIDvaccine](https://www.mass.gov/COVIDvaccine)



12th ANNUAL

the manogram project  
precision prostate care for every man

PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS DAY

SAVE THE DATE!

FEBRUARY 25, 2021 | 10 am - 2 pm EST

LOCATION

VIRTUAL EVENT

GOALS

RECOGNIZE PROSTATE CANCER AS A PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITY AND LEADING DISPARITY AND SUPPORT RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND AWARENESS FOR SAVING LIVES

Creating a Massachusetts Model of National Leadership

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE AND PAST CONTRIBUTORS

Faina Shtern, MD, Event Chair, President and CEO, AdMeTechFoundation

Senate President Pro Tempore William N. Brownsberger, Event Host

Governor Charlie Baker

Senate President Karen Spilka

Milagros Abreu, MD, MPH, Founder, President, and CEO of Latino Health Insurance Program

Richard Babayan, MD, Professor of Surgery and Chairman of Urology, Boston University Medical School

Cheryl Bartlett, RN, CEO, Greater New Bedford Health Center and Former Commissioner, Department of Public Health

Micheal Blakely, Founder and President, Edward & Earlean Blakely Creative Arts Center Inc.

Senator Michael Brady

Representative Gerry Cassidy

Juan Cofield, President, New England Area Conference of NAACP

Senator Cynthia Creem, Senate Majority Leader

Representative Claire Cronin, Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Speaker of the House Robert Deleo

Antonio DeLesline, Coordinator, Men of Color Health Awareness

Representative Carlos Gonzalez, Chair, Black and Latino Caucus

Lovo D. Koliego, MSN, RN, Founder/CEO Community Health Awareness Network (C.H.A.N)

Representative Russell E. Holmes, Former Chair, Black and Latino Caucus

Marc Hymovitz, Director of Government Relations & Advocacy, American Cancer Society

Adam Kibel, MD, Elliott Carr Cutler Professor of Surgery and Chief of Urology, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School

Senator Jason Lewis, Chair, Joint Committee on Education

Representative Ronald Mariano, House Majority Leader

Representative Frank A. Moran, Chair, House Committee on Personnel and Administration

Representative Michael J. Moran, 2nd Assistant Majority Leader

Senator Michael Rush, Assistant Majority Whip

Lamont Scott, Coordinator, Men of Color Health Awareness

Dalton Skerritt, Founder, Center for the Elimination of Health and Social Inequities and Disparities

Allen Snyder, Chairman, Massachusetts Prostate Cancer Coalition

Mitchell Sokoloff, MD, Professor and Chair of Urology, University of Massachusetts School of Medicine

Beau Stubblefield-Tave, Principal and Co-Founder, Center for Culturally Fluent Leadership

Senator James T. Welch, Chair, Joint Committee on Financial Services

Organized by AdMeTech Foundation in Partnership with the Prostate Cancer Action Council:



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FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RSVP, visit [www.admetech.org](http://www.admetech.org), email [contact@admetech.org](mailto:contact@admetech.org), call 617-523-3535, Tweet @Manogram #PCAD2021 or like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/manogram](http://www.facebook.com/manogram)

# Brief Announcement on Prostate Cancer Awareness Event (Dr. Abreu) (1-2 minutes)

- Among the speakers are Task Force Members Dr. Abreu and Rep. Gonzalez
- Registration via <https://www.admetech.org/12th-prostate-cancer-awareness-day-02-25-2021/>

# Welcome to Joan Quinlan (Michael Curry/All) and Future Task Force Work (Dr. Sayah) (3-5 minutes)

Task Force  
Timeline is  
subject to  
updates



Task Force Work and Stakeholder Input toward Final Report

February 1<sup>st</sup> Public  
Hearing (1-5 PM)

Task Force  
Leadership Continues  
by Task Force Charge

Task Force Meetings & Public Hearing

February 2 (3:30 – 5  
PM)

February 16 (3:30 – 5  
PM) (Target for Draft  
Report Review)

Public Hearing TBD

Review Final Report

February 23 (3 – 4:30  
PM) Meeting

## Task Force Members Continue Leadership by Task Force Charge (merged due to synergies)

**Charge 1:** Task Force Member Leads: Dr. Cassandra Pierre, Rep. Donald Wong, Rep. Chynah Tyler

**Charge 2 and 3:** Task Force Member Leads: Dr. Kiame Mahaniah, Beverly Stables, Dr. Myechia Minter-Jordan, Hirak Shah

**Charge 4 and 5:** Dr. Frank Robinson, Dr. Cassandra Pierre, Dr. Milagros Abreu, Rep. Donald H. Wong

**Charge 6:** Michael Curry, Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz, Dr. Frank Robinson

**Charge 7 and 8:** Hirak Shah, Senator Julian Cyr, Dr. Assaad Sayah, Jeffrey Sanchez, Rep. Carlos Gonzalez

# Panel 1

## Presentations and Dialogue

Telehealth, Digital Equity, and Health Equity Zones  
(35 minutes)

*Introductions/Moderator:*  
*Dr. Mahaniah*

**Adam Delmolino, Director of Virtual Care & Clinical Affairs at MA Health and Hospital Association and convener of tMed Coalition**

**Christina Severin, President and CEO, Community Care Collaborative**

**Brendan Abel, Esq., Director of Advocacy and Government Relations, MA Medical Society**

**Jennifer Hawkins, Executive Director, One Neighborhood Builders, Providence, Rhode Island**

# Panel 2

## Presentations and Dialogue

Cross-Sector Digital Equity and Inclusion  
(30 minutes)

*Introductions/Moderator:*  
*Dr. Robinson*

**Dr. Patrick Tutwiler,**  
**Superintendent, Lynn Public**  
**Schools**

**Stratton Lloyd, Executive Vice**  
**President and COO, Essex County**  
**Community Foundation**

**Paul Foster, Chief Information**  
**and Accountability Officer,**  
**Springfield Public Schools and**  
**Founding Member, Digital Equity**  
**Alliance**